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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7429

BILL NUMBER: SB 1

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 7, 2013

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: School Resource Officers.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Miller Pete

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X **GENERAL**
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that money from the Indiana Safe Schools Fund may be used for school resource officer programs.

The bill defines "school resource officer". It also specifies how a school resource officer program may be established, and sets forth duties and responsibilities for school resource officers.

The bill provides that the Attorney General or the Budget Committee may authorize distributions from the Indiana Safe Schools Fund to school corporations and charter schools for the establishment or expansion of school resource officer programs.

The bill appropriates \$10,000,000 to the Indiana Safe Schools Fund for distributions to school corporations and charter schools to establish or expand school resource officer programs.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Summary:* The bill appropriates \$10 M in FY 2013 from the state General Fund to the Indiana Safe Schools Fund. The appropriated funds would be used by the Attorney General to provide grants to local school corporations and charter schools to employ school resource officers. A grant to a school corporation or charter school may not exceed 50% of the total costs of employing a school resource officer for a 2-year period beginning May 1, 2013. The maximum grant for a school corporation or charter school is \$50,000 per year. The local school corporation and local law enforcement agency are required to provide at least 50% of the costs of employing the officers.

Since there are about 360 school corporations and charter schools, the appropriation could provide an average grant of \$27,777. However the grant amounts will be determined by the Attorney General's Office in consultation with the Criminal Justice Institute subject to the limits outlined above and after weighting various criteria outlined in the bill.

Background: The Indiana Safe Schools Fund was established to:

1. Promote school safety through:
 - a. Purchase of equipment for the detection of firearms and other weapons;
 - b. Use of dogs trained to detect firearms, drugs, explosives, and illegal substances; and
 - c. Purchase other equipment and materials used to enhance school safety.
2. Combat truancy
3. Provide matching grants to school for School Safe Haven Programs.
4. Provide grants for school safety and safety plans.
5. Provide educational outreach and training to school personnel concerning the identification, the prevention, and the intervention in bullying.

The fund had a balance of \$698,705 as of June 30, 2012 and about \$1.1 M in grants was provided from the fund in FY 2012. Under HEA 1001-2011, \$1,129,216 was appropriated each year from the state General Fund to Indiana Safe Schools Program and \$692,100 was appropriated each year from the Indiana Safe School Fund. From these appropriations, \$1,071,315 was appropriated annually to provide grants to school corporations for school save haven programs, emergency preparedness programs, and school safety programs; and \$750,000 was appropriated annually for use in providing training to school safety specialists.

The Indiana Safe Schools Fund is a nonreverting dedicated fund.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: See *Explanation of State Expenditures*.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Attorney General, Criminal Justice Institute, State Budget Committee.

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources: Safe Haven School Program website, <http://www.in.gov/cji/2656.htm> .

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